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A

TRANSLATION
OF THE
French King's ORDINANCE,
Relating to the
ENROLLING
OF
SEA-OFFICERS, SAILORS,
and SEA-FARING PEOPLE.

The 15th of *April*, 1689.



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TRANSLATION
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French King's ORDINANCE,
Relating to the
ENROLLING
OF
SEA-OFFICERS, &c.

ARTICLE I.



THE general Enrolment
of the Masters, Pilots,
Mates, Gunners, Carpen-
ters, Sea Officers, Sailors
and other Seafaring People, which
has been made in the Maritime Pro-

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vinces of the Kingdom, shall be kept up and put in Execution.

A R T I C. II.

THE Provinces shall be divided into different Districts, in each of which, there shall be a Commissary, who shall keep the Roll of the Sea Officers, Sailors, and Seafaring People, according to the Form prescribed to them by the Instructions which shall be transmitted to them for that Purpose.

A R T I C. III.

THE Sea Officers and Sailors shall be divided into Classes; to wit, in the Provinces of *Guyenne, Britany, Normandy, Picardy*, the Conquered
and

and Reconquered Countries, into four Classes ; and in those of *Poitou, Saintonge, Country of Annis, Isle of Ré,* and of *Oleron, River of Charente, Languedoc* and *Provence*, into three Classes.

A R T I C. IV.

EACH Class shall serve one Year out of three or four alternately, according to the Division which has been made of it ; and the Service shall begin the first Day of *January* of each Year.

A R T I C. V.

THE Sea Officers and Sailors shall always carry about them the Tickets, which

which shall have been delivered to them by the Commissaries.

ARTIC. VI.

HIS Majesty forbids their engaging for any Voyage upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever; and likewise all Commanders, Masters, and Owners of Ships and Vessels, to employ them, before they have been enrolled, and taken out their Ticket, upon Pain of a Fine of 500 Livres, to be laid upon the Commanders, Masters and Owners for the first Offence, and Corporal Punishment, for every subsequent Offence of the like Nature.

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ARTIC. VII.

THE Seafaring People employed on Board of the Vessels belonging to Farmers of the Revenue, as well as the Ferry Boats, and Boats or Sloops belonging to the Governors of Maritime Places, shall be included in the Rolls of the Classes.

ARTIC. VIII.

AS, likewise, all the foreign Sailors, who shall be willing to settle in the Kingdom, who offer five Years Service on Board his Majesty's Ships, shall be no longer deemed Aliens, but shall enjoy all the Rights and Privileges of *French* natural-born Subjects, without having Occasion to
take

take out Letters of Naturalization, upon producing the Certificate of their Enrolment, and the Certificates of the Commanders of Ships on Board of which they shall have served, examined by the Intendant General of the Marine, having the Inspection of the Classes ; or, in his Absence, by the Commissaries appointed for that Purpose, conformably to his Majesty's Declaration.

A R T I C. IX.

H I S Majesty enjoins the Consuls, Church-wardens, Heads of Communities, Collectors, and Assessors, to distinguish every Year upon the Rolls of the Taxes and *Affouages*. The Inhabitants, who apply themselves to Navigation

to mark in particular the Profession of each, upon Penalty of 300 Livres, in case of Omission, to be applied one Half to his Majesty, and the other Half to the Informers. His Majesty likewise enjoins the Consuls, Churchwardens of Communities, Collectors and Assessors, to produce these Rolls, upon the same Penalty, to the Commissaries of the Marine charged with the Care of the Classes, as often as they shall be thereunto required.

ARTIC. X.

THE Sea Officers and Sailors, who shall not actually be at Sea, shall appear twice a Year before the Commissaries, in order to pass in Review; to whom they shall give such Informations as shall be demanded

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manded of them ; and the House-keepers of the Houses where such Sailors lodge, who shall be absent upon a Voyage, shall be obliged to declare their Names, upon Penalty of Ten Livres Forfeiture against every one acting in Contravention thereto.

A R T I C. XL

THE Officers of the Courts of Admiralty shall not receive, for the future, upon Pain of Suspension, any Masters, Pilots, and Coasting Pilots, under the Age of Twenty-five Years, and unless they have made two Voyages, of three Months each at least, on Board of his Majesty's Ships, besides the five Years Navigation which the Mates are obliged to

to perform by the Ordinance of the Month of *August* 1681; and, in order to prove these two Years Service, the Master, Pilots, and Coasting Pilots, shall be obliged to produce Certificates from the Commanders of the Ships on Board of which they shall have served, containing the Time the Voyages have lasted, examined by the Intendant General of the Marine having the Inspection of the Classes, or, in his Absence, by the Commissary of each District, upon Pain of having the Certificates annulled which shall be produced.

ARTIC. XII.

HIS Majesty forbids the Officers of the Courts of Admiralty, under the same Penalty of Suspension, to

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receive

receive, as Masters, Pilots and Coasting Pilots, any other Sailors than those that are settled and dwell within the Extent of their Jurisdiction, unless the Sailors bring a Certificate from the Officers of the Admiralty of the Place of their usual Residence, examined by the Commissary of the District, setting forth, that they have all the necessary Qualifications to entitle them to Admission.

A R T I C. XIII.

N O Persons shall be allowed, for the future, to pilot themselves along the Passages of the Coasts of *Saintonge*, unless they are approved before the Officers of the Admiralty of their Jurisdictions, as is practiced in relation to the Coasting Pilots, upon
Penalty

Penalty of forfeiting Five hundred Livres.

ARTIC. XIV.

THE Sea-Officers, Sailors, and Sea-faring People, who shall have made a Cruise on Board his Majesty's Ships, or a Voyage of a long Continuance, and who shall still be in the Condition of serving, whether they are actually employed, or whether they remain at Home, shall enjoy, during the Year of their Service, the Privilege of not being obliged to lodge Soldiers, or the Watch and Ward of the Gates of Towns and Castles, to be Guardians or Trustees to collect the Taxes, Confiscation, and Custody of Effects, as well with Regard for his Majesty's Affairs, as those

those of private Persons ; as likewise the Privilege of having all Proceedings in their Law Suits and civil Differences superceded and suspended, as well as all Detentions of their Persons and Estates, on account of Debt, whether they happen to be engaged by Bond or otherwise.

A R T I C. XV.

THOSE among the Classes not upon Duty, may engage with the Merchants with all Freedom, and serve them in carrying on the Commerce.

A R T I C. XVI.

NEVERTHELESS, they shall not be allowed to change their Condition

dition or Habitation, without having declared it to the Commissary of their District; nor shall the Captains of Merchant Ships, Masters and Commanders of Barks, and others, be allowed to engage those belonging to the Provinces adjoining to the Places where they shall fit out their Vessels, 'till they have caused the Leave to be produced, granted to them by the Commissaries of the District which they shall have quitted, and the Certificate of the Commissary of the Province where they shall be, setting forth, who has enrolled them in the Classes of the Province where they are settled, upon Penalty against the Sea Officers and Sailors, of being punished as Deserters, and of a Forfeiture

of Five hundred Livres against the Captains, Masters and Commanders.

A R T I C. XVII.

HIS Majesty forbids them, under the same Penalties, to engage themselves, and the Captains, Masters, Commanders, and Owners of Vessels, to detain them for any other Navigation or Marine Function, during the Year of their Service, or the other Years, for any Voyages from which they may not be enabled to return before the Commencement of the Year of their Service.

A R T I C. XVIII.

T H E Captains, Masters, Commanders, and Owners of Merchant Ships

Ships, shall deliver, before their Departure, to the Register of the Admiralty of the Place where they shall fit out, an exact Roll of their Crew, containing the Year of the Class on Service of each Sailor, upon pain of forfeiting Three hundred Livres, and shall keep a Duplicate by them.

ARTIC. XIX.

THESE Rolls shall be examined and certified by the Commissary, or Clerk of the Classes, settled in each District, before the Clerk appointed for the Delivery of the Admiral's Permit, and those of *Britany*, can deliver out any, and before the Officers of the Admiralty, or the Judges who take Cognizance of Maritime

C

ritime Causes, can Register them, upon pain of having such Permits annulled, of Suspension of the Officers or Judges, and a Forfeiture of Five hundred Livres, to be laid upon the Clerk who shall have delivered them, and of Three hundred Livres upon the Captains, Masters, Commanders and Owners, who have departed without causing these Rolls to be examined.

A R T I C. XX.

THE Officers of Health likewise in the Ports of *Provence*, shall not be allowed to give Certificates of Health to any Sailor, if he is not included in the Roll of the Crew of every Ship, certified as is said above, nor even to any Sailor who has not the

the Permit of the Commissary or Clerk of the Classes.

ARTIC. XXI.

UPON their Return from their Voyages, the Captains, Masters and Commanders, shall come to the Office of the Classes, in order to give an Account of their Crews, and declare the Names of those who are dead, or have left them, or whom they shall have left in any Port of the Kingdom, or in any foreign Country; as likewise of those which they shall have taken in any Place whatsoever, or which shall have been put on board them in foreign Countries, by the Consuls of the *French* Nation, upon pain of forfeiting Three hundred Livres.

ARTIC. XXII.

T H E Names of the Passengers and Servants, or Apprentices, which the Captains, Masters, and Commanders, shall receive on board, shall be given to the Commissary or Clerks of the Classes, as well as those of the Sailors of the Crew; and the Officers of the Admiralty shall not be allowed to give any Permit to such Passengers, Servants, or Apprentices, if they are not contained in the Roll which shall be presented to them.

ARTIC. XXIII.

T H E Merchants and French Privateers who shall send Ships to the Islands

Islands of *America*, *New France*, and other Colonies, shall declare to the Commissaries or Clerks within the District where they shall fit out, the Men whom they shall have engaged for Thirty-six Months, in order to verify whether they are not enrolled as Sailors. His Majesty forbids their engaging any Sailor for Thirty-six Months upon pain of forfeiting Five hundred Livres.

ARTICLE XXIV.

THE Captains, Masters and Owners of Merchant Ships, who have a Mind to perform the Voyage from *Newfoundland* and the Islands of *America*, shall navigate their Vessels with *French* Sailors, preferably to such *Foreigners* as are neither enrolled

rolled or settled in the Country, upon pain of forfeiting a Hundred Livres.

ARTIC. XXV.

THE Sea-Officers and Sailors, embarked on board Merchant Ships, shall compleat the Voyages for which they shall have been engaged, and shall not quit these Ships 'till they have been discharged by the Captains or Masters who shall command them, even tho' they should have obtained Leave from the Officers of the Admiralty, upon pain of forfeiting what shall be due to them.

ARTIC. XXVI.

HIS Majesty forbids all Captains, Masters, Commanders, and Sailors

Sailors belonging to *French* Ships, who sail into foreign Countries, to have Recourse, on account of Differences that may arise among them, to the Judges of the Places, under Penalty of Disobedience. It is his Majesty's Pleasure, that they should address themselves to the Consuls of the *French* Nation, who are settled in foreign Countries, who shall do the Captains, Masters, Commanders and Sailors, the most ready and speedy Justice imaginable, and without Expence.

A R T I C. XXVII.

HIS Majesty forbids the Captains, Masters, and Commanders, to leave and discharge any Sailors of their Crews in foreign Countries, on pain
of

of a Forfeiture of Five hundred Livres, and even a greater, if the Case requires it.

ARTIC. XXVIII.

THE Captains and Masters of the *French* Ships, who shall happen to be in the Ports of foreign Countries, shall be obliged to take on Board them the *French* Sailors, which shall be delivered to them by the Consuls of the *French* Nation, upon pain of a Forfeiture of Five hundred Livres to be laid upon any Person acting in Contravention to it, and the Expence the Captains shall be at, and the Provisions they shall furnish to the Sailors, shall be paid to them, from the Day of their Embarcation, by the Intendants of
Marine

Marine, upon the Certificates of the Consuls.

ARTIC. XXIX.

HIS Majesty forbids all Sea Officers and Sailors to go out of the Kingdom to serve Foreigners, to remove their Dwellings there, or to settle themselves there by Marriage or otherwise, upon pain of being punished as Deserters; and enjoins those who are employed there, to repair immediately to the Places of their Residence, or to some of the Ports of the Kingdom, to be enrolled there, if they have not been so already; and, in Default of their complying therewith in two Months, the absent Persons shall be proceeded
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against in an extraordinary Manner, by the Officers of the Courts of Admiralty, upon the first Advice which they shall receive of it.

A R T I C. XXX.

HOWEVER, his Majesty permits young Sailors, from the Age of Fourteen to Fifteen Years, to embark themselves on Board *English* and *Dutch* Ships, in order to learn those several Languages, upon Condition they shall take out Permits from the Commissaries of their District; and that their Fathers and Mothers, and other Relations, settled in the Kingdom, and in a Condition to make good the Engagements they shall enter into, shall oblige

blige themselves, before the Commissioners, to produce them at the Age of Eighteen or Twenty Years, upon a Penalty of Five hundred Livres.

ARTIC. XXXI.

THE Captains and Masters of Merchant Ships and Vessels, shall be exempted from the Order and Service of the Classes, upon taking aboard their Vessels, every Voyage they shall make to Sea, to wit, those whose Crew consists of less than Ten Men, one Lad under Eighteen Years; those whose Crew consists of more than Ten Men, two; and so in Proportion, encreasing always by Tens, upon Penalty of a Forfeiture of One hundred Livres against the Persons

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acting

acting in Contravention, and to be deprived of the said Exemption.

ARTIC. XXXII.

THE Captains, Masters and Commanders of Ships, Barks, and other Merchant Ships, who shall be a Year without going to Sea, shall forfeit their Exemption, and shall be obliged to serve in their Turn on Board his Majesty's Ships, without having any Pretence to enjoy the same Exemption, 'till they shall have sailed three successive Years in Quality of Captains, Masters or Commanders.

ARTIC.

ARTIC. XXXIII.

ALL the Masters of Barks, Fishermen, and Druggers in the *Seine*, shall likewise be exempted, on their keeping a young Lad on Board, and on producing to the Commissaries of the Classes of their Districts, the Permits which shall have been given them, in Quality of Fishermen, by the Officers of the Admiralty, during three successive Years.

ARTIC. XXXIV.

THE Boys who shall have served Aboard these Vessels, shall be reputed Sailors at the Age of Eighteen Years, and shall not be detained any longer as Ship Boys by the Captains and Masters.

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ARTIC. XXXV.

THE Captains, Lieutenants, Ensigns, and other Marine Officers, employed to raise Soldiers for the equipping of Ships, shall not engage any Sailor to serve in the Quality of a Soldier, upon pain of Suspension.

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